

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BUCAR 02067 161145Z

60

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

COME-00 TRSE-00 /037 W

----- 105121

R 160955Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7478

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2067

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

DEPT PLEASE PASS USDA

BELGRADE FOR AGATT

1. FROM APRIL 6-14, AGATT TRAVELLED BY CAR OVER FOLLOWING ROUTE:
BELGRADE, ARAD, ORADEA, TIRGU MURES, PIATRA NEAMT, IASI,
SUCEAVA, GALATI, CONSTANTA, BUCHAREST.

2. OVERALL CONDITION OF WINTER GRAINS WAS JUDGED TO BE SLIGHTLY
POORER THAN NORMAL. LATE SOWN WINTER GRAINS, PARTICULARLY IN
MOLDAVIA, DOBROGEA, AND IALOMITA COUNTY, OFTEN HAD SIGNIFICANT
SPOT DAMAGE OR THINNESS. A NUMBER OF WINTER GRAIN FIELDS HAD
BEEN HARROWED AND WERE TO BE RE-SOWN WITH SPRING CROPS. IN
MOST AREAS VISITED, SOME DAMAGE FROM STANDING WATER WAS ALSO
OBSERVED. WINTER GRAINS, ESPECIALLY IN SANDY SOILS, APPEARED TO
REQUIRE MORE MINERAL FERTILIZER.

3. SPRING GRAINS WERE BEING PLANTED OVER THE ENTIRE ROUTE.
HOWEVER VIRTUALLY NO TOP GROWTH WAS VISIBLE NORTH OF GALATI.
FIELDS SEEN TO THE SOUTH HAD GERMINATED SATISFACTORILY.

4. SUGAR BEETS, SUNFLOWERS AND POTATOES WERE BEING PLANTED
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY BUT NO GROWTH WAS OBSERVED. AS OF APRIL
15, 90 PERCENT OF SUGAR BEETS AND OVER 85 PERCENT OF SUNFLOWER
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BUCAR 02067 161145Z

HAD BEEN PLANTED. FORAGE CROPS WERE GENERALLY IN GOOD CONDITION,

BUT IN NORTHERN MOLDAVIA SOME ALFALFA FIELDS HAD LIGHT WINTER DAMAGE.

5. SPRING IS ABOUT TWO WEEKS LATE IN WESTERN ROMANIA AND ABOUT THREE WEEKS LATE IN MOLDAVIA AND SOUTHERN ROMANIA. THUS, FIELD WORK AND SOWING IS BEING DELAYED. RAIN OR SNOW (IN NORTHERN MOLDAVIA) WAS ENCOUNTERED FROM APRIL 7-13. SOIL MOISTURE SUPPLIES WERE ADEQUATE TO GOOD OVER ENTIRE ROUTE.

6. DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS AND FARM DIRECTORS. WHILE DOWN-PLAYING WINTER DAMAGE TO GRAINS THEY DID INDICATE THAT GRAIN PLANTED AFTER NOV 1 OFTEN WAS NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND THE UNUSUALLY COLD WINTER. TEMPERATURES THIS PAST WINTER REPORTEDLY WERE AS LOW AS MINUS 25 DEGREES CX IN WESTERN ROMANIA AND MINUS 32 DEGREES C IN NORTHERNMOLDAVIA. SNOW COVER IN BOTH AREAS REPORTEDLY WAS GOOD BUT SOME DAMAGE WAS SEEN IN BOTH AREAS.

MINAGR OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT WINTER WHEAT WAS SOWN ON 2.4 MILLION HECTARES. WINTER DAMAGE REPORTEDLY WAS 30,000 HA. AND WAS WITHIN NORMAL LIMITS. WINTER BARLEY DAMAGE REPORTEDLY WAS 20,000 HA. AGATT FEELS THAT SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN 50,000 HA. OF WINTER GRAINS WERE DAMAGED THIS PAST WINTER; HOWEVER, MUCH OF THIS DAMAGED GRAIN WILL STILL BE HARVESTED. PLAN CALLS FOR CORN AREA TO BE EXPANDED BY 280,000 HA. OVER THE 1975 LEVEL. FINAL AREA PLANTED WILL DEPEND ON TIMING OF WINTER GRAIN HARVEST. SINCE THERE APPARENTLY ARE NO PLANS TO DECREASE AREA PLANTED IN OTHER SPRING CROPS, SOME OF THIS EXPANSION IN CORN AREA WILL PROBABLY REPLACE DAMAGED WINTER GRAINS. CORN PLANTING IN SOUTHERN ROMANIA IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY ABOUT MAY 5 WHILE OPTIMUM PLANTING PERIOD IS APRIL 10-20. SINCE SOYBEAN YIELDS HAVE NOT EXPANDED SATISFACTORILY, AREA REPORTEDLY WILL NOT BE EXPANDED IN 1976 AND WILL BE ABOUT 180-200,000 HA.

BARNES

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, SUPPLIES, FOODS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BUCHAR02067
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760145-0719
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760455/aaaabtzh.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisao
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by oatisao>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIAN AGRICULTURAL SITUATION DEPT PLEASE PASS USDA
TAGS: EAGR, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006